



#### NEWS RELEASE

For more information contact Betty VanDeventer 402.471.4537,  
[betty.vandeventer@nebraska.gov](mailto:betty.vandeventer@nebraska.gov)

April 30, 2014

# **SkillsUSA NEBRASKA ANNOUNCES 2014 COMPETITION WINNERS**

SkillsUSA Nebraska, a Nebraska Department of Education student organization, recently recognized award winners and elected new officers during its 2014 conference in Omaha.

About 1,500 people attended the conference, including 1,200 high school, college and technical students and advisors.

The following students were elected as high school officers for 2014-2015:

Natalie Bauermeister – Louisville High School  
Alexa Bruick – Seward High School  
Anthony Cannot – Papillion-La Vista South High School  
Moriah Heerten – Keya Paha County High School  
Jamie Kerwin - Gretna High School  
Benjamin Logston – Sterling High School  
Connor Pudenz – Papillion-La Vista South High School

The following students were elected College/Technical School officers for 2014-2015:

Ashley Beall – Central Community College-Hastings  
Jerrod Whittaker – Wayne State College  
Emily Sysel – Metropolitan Community College

Jason Novotny of Gretna High School was named Outstanding High School Advisor of the Year and Reba Skalka of Central Community College-Hastings was named Outstanding College/Technical Advisor of the Year.

Adam Skrdla of Hastings High School and Scott Kneifl of Papillion-La Vista High School were elected to the SkillsUSA Nebraska Board of Directors.

Students participated in 90 hands-on skill and leadership contests. First place state winners qualify for national competition at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Championships Conference, June 23 - 27, in Kansas City, Missouri.

First, second and third place winners are:

3-D Visualization & Animation

First place: Seward High School, Team #1  
Second place: Seward High School, Team #3  
Third place: Seward High School, Team #2

Action Skills

First place: Jonathan Fernandez, Sutherland High School  
Second place: Tony Flack, Malcolm High School  
Third place: Brielle Salberg, Sterling High School

Action Skills C/T

First place: Derrick Marshall, Metropolitan Community College -Omaha

Advertising Design

First place: Robyn Wells, Papillion-La Vista High School  
Second place: Logan Fitzgibbons, Papillion-La Vista High School  
Third place: Clara Heinicke, Seward High School

Architectural Drafting

First place: Collin Mettenbrink, Seward High School  
Second place: Josh Weinand, Papillion-La Vista South High School  
Third place: Alexa McCallum, Grand Island High School

Architectural Drafting, C/T

First place: Kody Kuchta, Wayne State College

Audio/Radio Production, C/T

First place: Metropolitan Community College – Team #1

Automated Manufacturing Technology

First place: Millard West High School, Team #4  
Second place: Seward High School Team #1

Automotive Refinishing

First place: Justin Mahon, Bennington High School  
Second place: David Korpua, Career Center - Omaha  
Third place: Amber Korpua, Career Center - Omaha

Automotive Refinishing, C/T

First place: Johnny Guzman, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha

Automotive Service Technology

First place: Westley Hoatson, North Platte High School

Second place: Blake Weekly, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha  
Third place: John Smith, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha

#### Automotive Service Technology, C/T

First place: Jason Grim, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha  
Second place: Ricardo Salazar, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha  
Third place: Patrick Topf, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha

#### Basic Health Care Skills

First place: Emily Ahmann, Millard Horizon High School  
Second place: Cody Rowley, Sidney High School  
Third place: Kyle Glandt, Seward High School

#### Cabinetmaking

First place: Dain Armbrust, Millard North High School  
Second place: Tanner Stock, Gretna High School  
Third place: Anthony Cannot, Papillion-La Vista High School

#### Cabinetmaking, C/T

First place: John Wiggins, Wayne State College  
Second place: Caleb Gardner, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha  
Third place: Nicholas Thompson, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha

#### Career Pathways Showcase - Manufacturing

First place: Sterling High School Team #1

#### Career Pathways Showcase – Natural Resources/Agriculture/Food

First place: Sterling High School Team #1

#### Carpentry

First place: Bryce Schreiner, Gretna High School  
Second place: Ricardo Gutierrez, Grand Island High School  
Third place: Bryce Smidt, Grand Island High School

#### Carpentry, C/T

First place: Nathan Clausen, Wayne State College

#### Chapter Business Procedure

First place: Seward High School, Team #1  
Second place: Sutherland High School, Team #3

#### Chapter Display

First place: Elmwood Murdock High School, Team #12  
Second place: Raymond Central High School, Team #10  
Third place: Papillion-La Vista South High School, Team #3

#### CNC Milling

First place: Kristopher Einspahr, Grand Island High School

Second place: Fredrick Ronfeldt, Millard South High School  
Third place: Isaac Eliason, Grand Island High School

#### CNC Turning Technology

First place: Andrew Rutt, Hastings High School  
Second place: Elmer Ortiz, Grand Island High School  
Third place: Clayton Pavelka, Hasting High School

#### Collision Repair Technology

First place: Cody Storm, Raymond Central High School  
Second place: Austin Holoubek, Career Center Omaha  
Third place: Matthew Hobbs, Louisville High School

#### Collision Repair Technology, CT

First place: Jacob Lewis, Metropolitan Community College

#### Commercial Baking

First place: Talia Seymore, Millard Horizon High School  
Second place: Erin Sosnowchik, Millard Horizon High School  
Third place: Ashtah Sigler, Career Center - Omaha

#### Community Service

First place: Louisville High School, Team #2  
Second place: Adams Central High School, Team #6  
Third place: Thedford High School, Team #3

#### Computer Maintenance Technology

First place: James Getrost, Papillion-La Vista High School  
Second place: Ben Galusha, Seward High School  
Third place: Jared Rupert, Norris High School

#### Computer Programming

First place: Gabe Dux, Fairbury High School

#### Cosmetology

First place: Allison Diesing, Papillion-La Vista High School  
Second place: Kylie Van Esch, York High School  
Third place: Breanna Schrantz, Keya Paha High School

#### Cosmetology, C/T

First place: Katherine Ferm, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha

#### Crime Scene Investigation

First place: Blair High School, Team #16  
Second place: Adams Central High School, Team #18  
Third place: Weeping Water High School, Team #7

#### Criminal Justice

First place: Sam Kopecky, Millard North High School  
Second place: Gabrielle Roberts, Papillion-La Vista High School  
Third place: Joseph Hunter, Papillion-La Vista High School

#### Culinary Arts

First place: Jarnario McClurge, Millard Horizon High School  
Second place: Keigon Bruneteau, Millard Horizon High School  
Third place: Megan Petr, Adams Central High School

#### Customer Service

First place: Samantha Granstrom, Adams Central High School  
Second place: Cadrien Livingston, Nebraska Unified Clearwater-Orchard  
Third place: Moriah Heerten, Keya Paha High School

#### Diesel Equipment Technology

First place: Phillip Hammer, North Platte High School  
Second place: Josh Mernitt, Louisville High School  
Third place: Kyle Junker, Papillion-La Vista South High School

#### Diesel Equipment Technology, C/T

First place: Kyle Meininger, Central Community College, Hastings  
Second place: Colten Long, Central Community College, Hastings  
Third place: Matt Kreber, Central Community College, Hastings

#### Digital Cinema Production

First place: Career Center – Omaha, Team #4  
Second place: Career Center – Omaha, Team #1  
Third place: Career Center – Omaha, Team #2

#### Digital Cinema Production, C/T

First place: Metropolitan Community College Team #500  
Second place: Metropolitan Community College Team #501

#### Early Childhood Education

First place: Marcus Manley, Louisville High School  
Second place: Josie Sjogren, Louisville High School  
Third place: Jacquelin Sweet, Papillion-La Vista High School

#### Early Childhood Education, C/T

First place: Kimberly Keane, Metropolitan Community College

#### Electrical Construction Wiring

First place: Dan Riha, Gretna High School  
Second place: Matthew Schneider, Hastings High School  
Third place: Dylan Hansen, York High School

#### Electrical Construction Wiring C/T

First place: Charles Fritz III, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha

Second place: Joshua Critel, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha  
Third place: Joseph Stephany, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha

#### Electronics Technology

First place: Dylan Eisenmann, Madison High School  
Second place: William Strong, Madison High School  
Third place: Brandon Maley, Hastings High School

#### Engineering Technology/Design

First place: Millard West High School, Team #2  
Second place: Millard West High School, Team #1  
Third place: Platteview High School

#### Extemporaneous Speaking

First place: Cale Miller, Seward High School  
Second place: Josh Brumm, Seward High School  
Third place: Victoria Korth, Adams Central High School

#### Firefighting

First place: Blake Carlsen, Bennington High School  
Second place: Thomas Kayton, Seward High School  
Third place: Jacob Sloup, Seward High School

#### Firefighting, C/T

First place: Jason Klipfel, Southeast Community College, Lincoln  
Second place: Luke Glesinger, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha  
Third place: Caleb Barney, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha

#### First Aid/CPR

First place: Taylor Hermann, Weeping Water High School  
Second place: Lexi Cooksey, Millard Horizon High School  
Third place: Alyssa Stockman, Papillion-La Vista South High School

#### Health Knowledge Bowl

First place: Millard Horizon High School, Team #4  
Second place: Arlington High School, Team #8  
Third place: Millard Horizon High School, Team #3

#### Health Occupations Professional Portfolio

First place: Emily Thraen, Millard Horizon High School

#### HVACR

First place: Wyatt Werner, Platteview High School

#### HVACR, C/T

First place: Gerald McNerney, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha

#### Industrial Motor Control, C/T

First place: Ryan Mencl, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha

#### Job Interview

First place: Trenton Guenther, Niobrara High School

Second place: Abbie Scholting, Platteview High School

Third place: Sydney Kucera, Ravenna High School

#### Job Interview, C/T

First place: Ashley Beall, Central Community College-Hastings

#### Job Skill Demonstration A

First place: Catie Theiler, Arlington High School

Second place: Brady Wilson, Grand Island High School

Third place: Austin Ruff, Papillion-La Vista South High School

#### Job Skill Demonstration Open

First place: Samuel Lindblad, Adams Central High School

Second place: Kaitlyn Grothen, Adams Central High School

Third place: Sydney Kucera, Ravenna High School

#### Major Appliance, C/T

First place: Barry Fitch, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha

#### Masonry

First place: Evan Horak, Papillion-La Vista South High School

Second place: Ethan Cradick, York High School

Third place: Caleb Scholz, Crete High School

#### Masonry, C/T

First place: Don Shandera, Metropolitan Community College

Second place: Joseph Godfrey, Mid-Plains Community College, North Platte

#### Mechatronics

First place: Columbus High School, Team #1

Second place: Norris High School, Team #2

#### Mechatronics, C/T

First place: Metropolitan Community College, Omaha, Team #500

#### Medical Assisting

First place: Joshua Garner, York High School

Second place: Victoria Korth, Adams Central High School

Third place: Bryant Essink, Hastings High School

#### Medical Math

First place: Brady Conant, Adams Central High School

Second place: Ryan Vocolka, Millard Horizon High School

Third place: Brady Kershner, Adams Central High School

#### Medical Terminology

First place: Katryna Booth-Malnack, Millard Horizon High School  
Second place: Laurel Heskett, Millard Horizon High School  
Third place: Allie Kallman, Millard Horizon High School

#### Mobile Electronics Installation

First place: Jerrod Whittaker, Gretna High School  
Second place: Colton Fickler, Louisville High School  
Third place: Jake Bowen, Westside High School

#### Mobile Robotics Technology

First place: Papillion-La Vista South High School, Team #13  
Second place: Millard West High School, Team #10  
Third place: Millard West High School, Team #8

#### Motorcycle Technology

First place: Ben Karloff, Gretna High School  
Second place: Dylan Smith, Weeping Water High School  
Third Place: Anthony Barnhart, Weeping Water High School

#### Motorcycle Technology

First place: Dylan Ortegren, Southeast Community College-Lincoln  
Second place: Wyatt Lara, Southeast Community College-Lincoln  
Third place: Kevin Crull, Southeast Community College-Lincoln

#### National T-Shirt Design

First place: Cale Miller, Seward High School  
Second place: Aaron Blersch, Seward High School  
Third place: Michael Bencoter, Thedford High School

#### Nurse Assisting

First place: Cori Hughes, Millard Horizon High School  
Second place: Madison Harpenau, Millard Horizon High School  
Third place: Diana Chavez, Hastings High School

#### Nurse Assisting, C/T

First place: Ashley Beall, Central Community College-Hastings

#### Opening & Closing Ceremonies

First place: North Platte High School, Team #3  
Second place: Louisville High School, Team #2  
Third place: Seward High School, Team #1

#### Outstanding Chapter

First place: Sterling High School

#### Photography



First place: Raven Adler, Adams Central High School  
Second place: Katherine Edie, Ft. Calhoun High School  
Third place: Mattie Sawle, Keya Paha County High School

#### Plumbing

First place: Carston Staehr, York High School  
Second place: Cody Grubb, Fremont High School  
Third place: Christian Weeks, Papillion-La Vista South High School

#### Power Equipment Technology

First place: Kyle Moore, Gretna High School  
Second place: Reann Schreiner, Gretna High School  
Third place: Jared Herman, Fairbury High School

#### Precision Machining Technology

First place: Corey King, Hastings High School  
Second place: Seth York, Millard South High School  
Third place: Edgar Rodriguez, Grand Island High School

#### Precision Machining Tech, C/T

First place: Cameron Haecker, Southeast Community College-Milford  
Second place: Eric Fraka, Southeast Community College-Milford  
Third place: Dalton Petty, Southeast Community College-Milford

#### Prepared Speech

First place: Megan Ruyan, Seward High School  
Second place: Kim Huynh, Lincoln North Star High School  
Third place: Kayleah Moravec, Seward High School

#### Prepared Speech, C/T

First place: Jammie Snyder, Metropolitan Community College

#### Promotional Bulletin Board

First place: Papillion-La Vista South High School, Team #4  
Second place: Keya Paha County High School, Team #3  
Third place: Louisville High School, Team #2

#### Quiz Bowl

First place: Seward High School, Team #1  
Second place: Adams Central High School, Team #14  
Third place: Norris High School, Team #16

#### Related Technical Math

First place: Matthew Rohman, Norris High School  
Second place: Bo Wullenwaber, Bennington High School  
Third place: Jason Rezac, Sutherland High School

#### Related Technical Math, C/T

First place: Jamie Policky, Wayne State College

#### Restaurant Service

First place: Jacob Meeske, Weeping Water High School

Second place: Katie Zeluf, Louisville High School

Third place: Marah Hestermann, Sterling High School

#### Sheet Metal, C/T

First place: Todd Koehly, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha

Second place: Bill Coleman, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha

#### Team Works

First place: Grand Island High School, Team #4

Second place: Omaha Burke High School, Team #5

Third place: Sidney High School, Team #3

#### Team Works, C/T

First place: Metropolitan Community College, Omaha, Team #503

Second place: Wayne State College, Team #500

Third place: Mid-Plains Community College, Team #502

#### Technical Computer Application

First place: Alexa Bruick, Seward High School

#### Technical Drafting

First place: Spencer Shield, Kearney High School

Second place: Jacob Newburn, Seward High School

Third place: Adolfo Diaz, Hastings High School

#### Technical Drafting, C/T

First place: Michael Ryle, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha

Second place: David Steward, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha

#### TV/Video Production

First place: Sutherland High School, Team #10

Second place: Papillion-La Vista High School, Team #4

Third place: Sutherland High School, Team #6

#### TV/Video Production, C/T

First place: Metropolitan Community College, Omaha, Team #501

Second place: Metropolitan Community College, Omaha, Team #502

#### Web Design

First place: Hastings High School, Team #2

Second place: Seward High School, Team #1

Third place: Ravenna High School, Team #4

#### Welding Champion Secondary

First place: Bryce Byman, Millard North High School  
Second place: Dillon Schultz, North Platte High School  
Third place: Blake Tucker, North Platte High School

Welding Champion Postsecondary

First place: Levi Thomlison, Southeast Community College-Lincoln  
Second place: Josh Baltensperger, Southeast Community College-Lincoln  
Third place: Gordon Davis, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha

Welding Fabrication

First place: North Platte High School, Team #4  
Second place: Stapleton High School, Team #9  
Third place: Sutherland High School, Team #11

Welding Fabrication, C/T

First place: Central Community College- Hastings, Team #501  
Second place: Southeast Community College-Lincoln, Team #500  
Third place: Southeast Community College-Lincoln, Team #503

Welding Sculpture

First place: Will Tietmeyer, York High School  
Second place: Courtney Cuddeford, Adams Central High School  
Third place: Devyn Glenn, Columbus High School

Welding Sculpture, C/T

First place: Rachel Von Fange, Wayne State College  
Second place: Tanner Silence, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha

**STATE ONLY CONTESTS:**

State Architectural Blueprint Reading-High School Division

First place: Abram Ehrhorn, Papillion-La Vista South High School

State Bridge Building JR

First place: Isaac Justo, Niobrara High School  
Second place: Connor Schomerus, Syracuse High School  
Third place: Ben Galusha, Seward High School

State Bridge Building SR

First place: Zach Heitkamp, Syracuse High School  
Second place: Mitchell Stilmock, Syracuse High School  
Third place: Joel Ketner, Seward High School

State Cabinetmaking

First place: Colby May, Adams Central High School  
Second place: Bryce Johnson, Waverly High School  
Third place: Morgan Krueger, Hastings High School

#### State Chapter Business Procedure

First place: Sutherland High School, Team#1

#### State Job Interview

First place: Samantha Redfern, York High School

Second place: Jacob Tuttle, Niobrara High School

Third place: Taron Wissing, Seward High School

#### State Job Skill Demonstration

First place: Austin Kneifl, Papillion-La Vista High School

Second place: Ryan Stewart, Malcolm High School

#### State Metric 500 JR

First place: Logan Plock, Cross County High School

Second place: Ryan Stewart, Malcolm High School

Third place: Josh Doppler, Waverly High School

#### State Metric 500 SR

First place: Troy Gibson, Keya Paha County High School

Second place: Gilbert Seck, North Platte High School

Third place: Michael Ripley, Keya Paha County High School

#### State Mousetrap Vehicles JR

First place: Ester Bossert, Keya Paha High School

Second place: Elena Tiefenthaler, Keya Paha High School

Third place: Nate Sandoz, Niobrara High School

#### State Mousetrap Vehicles SR

First place: Buck Cronk, Keya Paha High School

Second place: Kevin Udd, Keya Paha High School

Third place: Joel Ketner, Seward High School

#### State Opening and Closing Ceremonies

First place: Seward High School, Team#1

#### State Pin Design Contest

First place: Nick Schleich, Seward High School

Second place: Raeanna Hartsgrove, Lincoln North Star High School

Third place: Kaitlynn Kraft, Papillion-La Vista South High School

#### State Only Prepared Speech

First place: Hanna Cronk, Nebraska Unified Clearwater-Orchard

Second place: Noah Urkoski, Seward High School

Third place: Alex Kemnitz, Hastings High School

#### State Research & Development

First place: Papillion-La Vista High School, Team #2

Second place: Seward High School, Team #1

#### State T- Shirt Design

First place: Robyn Wells, Papillion-La Vista High School  
Second place: Lauren Walz, Seward High School  
Third place: Collin Mettenbrink, Seward High School

#### State Technical Team Problem Solving

First place: Sutherland High School, Team #22  
Second place: Raymond Central High School, Team #31  
Third place: Logan View High School, Team #24

#### State Technical Team Problem Solving, C/T

First place: Southeast Community College – Milford, Team #500  
Second place: Central Community College-Hastings, Team #501

#### State Welding, GMAW

First place: Andrew Strohbehn, Millard North High School  
Second place: Skieler Moody, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha  
Third place: Tyler Kerr, Metropolitan Community College, Omaha

#### State Welding, GTAW

First place: Bryce Byman, Millard North High School  
Second place: Kevin Bang, Millard North High School  
Third place: Dillon Schultz, North Platte High School

#### State Welding, OAW

First place: Dylan Siemers, North Platte High School  
Second place: Lynsy Flyr, Millard North High School  
Third place: Terrance Nelson, North Platte High School

#### State Welding, SMAW

First place: Travis Kerker, Millard North High School  
Second place: Christian Marsh, Millard North High School  
Third place: Blake Tucker, North Platte High School